

# Project Proposal

**Proposal Title:** Anthro Big Wash Lop and Scatter

**Proposal Number:** 1458

**DWR Region:** Northeastern Region

**Lead Agency:** DWR

**County:** Duchesne

**Project Manager:** Dax Mangus

**PM Phone:** 0

**Regional Priority:** Within Focus Area

**Project Type:** Terrestrial Habitat

**Proposed Start Date:** 7/1/2009

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**Project Location:** Upper end of Big Wash extending North and East from the top of Gate Canyon on the Nine Mile Road (Wells Draw).

**Project Description:** Lop and Scatter in PJ to maintain an old chaining on elk winter range.

**Description of Problem/Need:** Conifers are encroaching into sagebrush and mountain browse communities throughout the Anthro unit. As conifers increase in density, browse and herbaceous species begin to be displaced. This encroachment ultimately diminishes habitat and forage for wildlife and domestic livestock. This particular area provides year round habitat for antelope and elk, and is an important elk wintering area, holding higher concentration of elk in the winter. There is an elk working group convened on the Anthro unit looking at ways to improve available forage for both elk and livestock. This area was designated by the elk working group as a high priority for range improvement, and plays an important part within the larger habitat objectives of the Anthro elk working group.

**Objectives:** The objectives of this project are to: 1.) Remove encroachment of Utah juniper, Rocky Mountain juniper, pinyon pine, from sagebrush and mountain browse communities. 2.) Maintain and enhance elk and pronghorn habitat by removing conifer encroachment to protect desirable herbaceous and browse plant communities.

**Relevance to Strategic Plans:** Proposed project is within shrub-steppe focus area of the Northeast Region and benefits the shrub-steppe habitat, a key habitat for species of concern as identified in the Wildlife Action Plan.

**Potential Risks:** No risks are anticipated with this project.

**Proposed Methods:** Encroaching pinyon pine, Rocky Mountain juniper, and Utah juniper will be removed from sagebrush and mountain browse communities using the lop and scatter method. Trees will be cut using chainsaws and other hand equipment and left in place. Trees will be lopped and slash will be reduced to a height no greater than 3 feet. A lop and scatter crew will be contracted by UDWR.

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**Shapefile Name:** 1458.shp

**Seed Source:**

**UPCD Reg Team Coord Date:**

**Proposed  
NEPA Action:**

**Proposed  
Arch Action:**

☐ **Vegetation Monitoring** ☒ **Wildlife Monitoring**

**Monitoring Information:** Winter elk use will be monitored during elk unit population trend flights. This area is also an approved release site for transplanted pronghorn in the unit pronghorn management plan. Transplanted pronghorn will be marked with ear tags and their distribution will be monitored.

**Grazing Management:** It is not anticipated that current grazing management practices will need to be altered.

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## SPECIES BENEFITING

Elk Pronghorn

## LAND OWNERSHIP

Owner	Acres
BLM	1648

Monday, March 16, 2009 10:35:58 AM

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<b>Total</b>	1648
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## PROPOSED FUNDING

Source	Amount Requested	Date Approved	Amount Approved
BLM ARRA	\$58,750.00	3/13/2009	\$58,750.00
BLM (In-kind)	\$1,500.00		\$0.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$60,250.00</b>		<b>\$58,750.00</b>

## PROPOSED BUDGET

Item	Description	DWR Account	Partner Contrib.
Contractual Services	lop and scatter contract @ \$35/acre 1650 acres	\$57,750.00	\$0.00
Motor Pool	vehicle mileage	\$1,000.00	\$0.00
NEPA	BLM NEPA Clearance	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$58,750.00</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>

## Project Map:

